(c) Steps being taken are :

(i) Widening of single lane to 2-lanes

(ii) Widening of selected 2-lane sections to 4/6- lane

(iii) Improvement of road geometrics

(iv) Construction of by-passes

(v) Reconstrucation of weak and narrow bridges and culverts

(vi) Providing paved shoulders

(vii) Strengthening weak pavements

(viii) junction improvements

(ix) Replacement of level crossing by road over-bridges

(x) Retro-reflective road signs

(xi) Thermoplastic road markings

(xii) Provision of parking lay byes

(xiii) Provision of Service Roads

(xiv) Wayside amenities on high traffic density corridors, and

(xv) Creation of awareness amongst various categories of Road Users,

(xvi) Training of drivers, etc.

Inadequate Space for Strong Inventories in Ordnance Depots

*555. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that space available for storing inventories is inadequate in most of the ordnance depots, thus exposing stores to vagaries of weather;

(b) if so, the depot-wide details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by Government for optimum utilisation of space and creation of additional space ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) Ordnance Depots store a large variety of equipments which can broadly be classified as general stores, clothing and armament. The other major group is ammunition.

As per current procedure, stores upon first receipt in Ordnance Depots are inspected, accounted for and only then stored in sheds. This being a continuous process, a certain amount of serviceable inventory will, therefore, be in the open at any given time, but only for a prescribed and limited period.

Instructions are standard about ensuring stroage of serviceable inventory in covered accommodation. This is to avoid losses on account of weather. However, obsolete and unserviceable items awaiting disposal are, sometimes, stored in the open.

Due to security reasons, it is not appropriate to give depot-wise details either of inventory or of the space available for storage.

Promotion Policy in NIC

*556 SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether national Informatics Centre (NIC) has any specific promotion policy for the persons belonging to Technical Category;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any complaint regarding the promotion of women candidates; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the promotion policy for promotion to the next grade is given in statement (*see* below)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.